

## Ecological Leap: Ecuador Revamps Galápagos Entry Fees for Sustainable Tourism Future

[Galápagos Islands, Ecuador] – In a groundbreaking move aimed at advancing conservation efforts and fostering sustainable tourism, the Galápagos National Park Authority, represented by Mr. Arturo Izurieta, and Minister of Tourism, Niels Olsen, have unveiled a revised entry fee structure for the Galápagos Islands. Effective August 1, 2024, this new fee system stands as a testament to Ecuador's commitment to safeguarding the unique ecosystem of the islands, ensuring their preservation for the benefit of future generations.

For the first time in over a quarter of a century, the entry fees to the Galápagos Islands will undergo an adjustment. This decision follows extensive deliberation and underscores the urgent need for sustainable tourism practices within the archipelago. The Galapagos National Park acknowledges the indispensable role tourism plays in the local economy while emphasizing the paramount importance of preserving the islands' delicate ecosystem.

The newly revised entry fees to the Galápagos National Park are:

Tourist Rates			
Category	Foreigners	CAN/MERCOSUR* Foreigners	Ecuador Residents
Children (12 years or younger)	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$15.00
Adults (13 - 64 years old)	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$30.00
Seniors ( 65 years old or older)	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$15.00
Persons with disabilities (CONADIS)	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$15.00
Non-resident foreign students enrolled in Ecuadorian institutions	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$30.00

\*CAN and MERCOSUR countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Perú, Argentina, Brasil, Paraguay, Uruguay

Collecting revised entry fees represents a significant stride towards aligning the needs of the local community with crucial environmental preservation efforts. These funds will be directly channeled into conservation initiatives, infrastructural upgrades, and community programs aimed at mitigating tourism's ecological footprint on the islands. Of particular importance is the allocation of funds towards critical areas such as sewage systems, waste management, and medical infrastructure. This targeted investment will not only bolster our environmental resilience but also safeguard the well-being and health of both residents and visitors, thereby ensuring the enduring beauty and biodiversity of the islands for generations to come.

"The Galápagos Islands are not only a national treasure but a global one. It is our collective responsibility to protect and preserve this unparalleled ecosystem for future generations," stated Niels Olsen, Minister of Tourism. "The adjustment in the entry fee, the first in 26 years, is a necessary measure to ensure that tourism in the Galápagos remains sustainable and mutually beneficial to both the environment and our local communities."

The Government of Ecuador remains committed to transparency and pledges to provide regular updates on the projects and initiatives funded through the entry fees. Visitors to the Galápagos Islands can anticipate enhanced conservation efforts, upgraded facilities, and educational programs aimed at cultivating a deeper understanding and appreciation of the islands' natural heritage.

For more information on the new entry fee structure and how the funds will be utilized, please visit [gobiernogalapagos.gob.ec](http://gobiernogalapagos.gob.ec)

Sincerely,

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